

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Approved For Release 2002/02/05 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001100010027-5

DOCUMENT NO.  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.

DECLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

AUTH: HR 70-2

DATE: 12-28-79 REVIEWER: 872044

NSC BRIEFING

6 January 1959

*Viet Minh*  
I. ~~Communist~~ (North Vietnam) (~~DRV~~) has stepped up its campaign of military and propaganda pressures against Laos designed to restrain elements planning to impose strong anti-Communist <sup>is</sup> government with full powers.

*Viet Minh*  
A. ~~DRV~~ Premier Pham Van Dong's message of 28 December protesting alleged Laotian violations of ~~DRV~~ frontiers and airspace is ~~the~~ latest in ~~a~~ series of such notes since 13 October.

B. Pham ~~seized on a 5 Jan. Laotian offer to negotiate border problem by~~ demanding high level conference to discuss

"all outstanding issues."

*Viet Minh*  
C. ~~DRV~~ patrols have frequently crossed ~~the~~ <sup>indisputed area</sup> frontier since 1 October and currently <sup>300 men</sup> ~~three platoons~~ are occupying <sup>two</sup> ~~a~~ positions <sup>just</sup> ~~about 5 kilometers~~ inside Laos. ~~southeastern frontier~~

II. In building border tension, ~~DRV may be taking a case for the return of the International Control Commission (ICC) to Laos.~~

A. Prince Souphannouvong, Chief of Laos' <sup>communist front party</sup> ~~Communist dominated Patriotic Front (NHE)~~ said to believe ICC only means to prevent US from carrying out aims in Laos.

1. This possible reference to American efforts to play active role in training Lao army.

*Viet Minh*  
B. Other reports indicate Poles and ~~DRV~~ lobbying in contacts with ICC Hanoi to reactivate Laos ICC.

*Viet Minh*  
III. There is as yet no information that ~~DRV~~ <sup>is</sup> preparing to intervene in strength in Laos.


at time when rightists plan takeover of Laotian govt, *Viet Minh* may also be making <sup>attempts to forestall such event;</sup>

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Laos commies

IV. However, ~~NHIZ~~ extremely apprehensive over governmental repression and are circulating rumors that ~~DRV~~ <sup>Viet Minh</sup> will intervene in event of coup.

25X1C

A.  reports indicate ~~NHIZ~~ <sup>commies</sup> partisans in ~~the~~ north are moving families to North Vietnam border in preparation for clandestine operations.

B. Former Pathet Lao ~~(PL)~~ battalion at Plaine des Jarres ~~is~~ reported preparing for clandestine evacuation of weapons to unidentified base in preparation for return to armed dissidence.

1. Three fully armed ~~PL~~ <sup>Viet Minh</sup> platoons moving toward Laos border on 26 December in area where the ~~PL~~ <sup>Pathet Lao</sup> battalion could be expected to regroup.

V. Laotian Prime Minister Phoui Sananikone apparently undismayed by combined ~~internal + external~~ <sup>internal + external commies</sup> pressures, plans to assume full powers and impose strong gov~~ernment~~ at special session of National Assembly on 10 January.